

2015 United Methodist Lectionary

For nearly twenty years, the beloved Guide to Prayer books have been sought after and used by thousands who hunger for God. Readers appreciate the simple structure of daily worship, the rich spiritual writings, the lectionary guidelines, and poignant prayers have all contributed to the long-lasting need for these rich resources. Now Rueben P. Job and Norman Shawchuck offer a third volume, *A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God*. Like its predecessors, this Guide offers a daily pattern for those seeking a rhythm of devotion and personal worship. *A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God* follows the Christian year and the lectionary readings. Each day offers guidance for an opening affirmation, a petition of prayer, and daily scripture selections. The Readings for Reflection reach back to early Christian classics and include voices from recently published works. Excerpts come from writers such as Frederick Buechner, Joyce Rupp, Henri Nouwen, Mother Teresa, Howard Thurman, C.S. Lewis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, John Wesley, and many others. These excerpts are arranged in weekly themes. Job and Shawchuck also include spiritually grounded explanations of the seasons of the church year to introduce each section of the book. This deluxe edition includes Bible binding, a ribbon bookmark, round corners, gold edges, and a leather-like cover in emerald green. 1. Third in the series. 2. Uses the Revised Common Lectionary 3. The "Readings for Reflection" reach back to early Christian classics and include voices from contemporary spiritual writing. 4. Daily arrangement is as follows: Affirmation, Psalm, Psalm Prayer, Daily Scripture Readings, Silence, Daily Readings for Reflection, Reflection (Silent or Written), Prayers, Offering of Self to God, Blessing.

"Reclaiming the Great World House in the 21st Century: Cross-Disciplinary Explorations of the Vision of Martin Luther King, Jr.," does just that. Established and emerging scholars explore Martin Luther King, Jr.'s global vision and his lasting relevance to a globalized rights culture. The editors further explain that this edited collection looks at: King afresh in his own historical context, while also refocusing his legacy of ideas and social praxis in broader directions for today and tomorrow. Employing King's metaphor of "the great world house," with major attention to racism, poverty, and war - or what he called "the evil triumvirate"--the focus is on King's appraisal of and approach to the global-human struggle in the 1950s and 60s, and on the extent to which his social witness and praxis takes on new hues and pertinence not only in the ongoing struggles against racism, poverty and economic injustice, and violence and human destruction, but also in the mounting efforts to eliminate problems such as sexism, homophobia, and religious bigotry and intolerance from the global landscape. The conclusion is that King's ideas and models of social protest are not only alive but also growing in vitality and popularity in the 21st century, especially as humans worldwide are struggling daily with the lingering, antiquated thinking and behavior around race and ethnicity, the widening gap between "the haves" and "the have-nots," the mounting cycles of violence, torture, and terrorism, and the frustrating and growing chasms resulting from religious pluralism and the subordination and marginalization of certain sectors of the human family based on gender and sexuality"--

"As a worship leader, I find the program calendar invaluable as a lectionary tool and liturgical calendar."- Carol S. Paton, Foothills United Methodist Church, La Mesa (Ca.) This calendar is vertical and stapled, 8.5" x 11". Simply stated...this is our best selling calendar. You'll find agency contacts/websites, information services, interdenominational services, Revised Common Lectionary readings, liturgical colors, next year's events, planning/resource guide, special days, a three-year calendar, the United Methodist giving program and pages for notes. The 2015 theme for the Official United Methodist Program Calendar is transformation. The compelling stories featured in the insert in the 2015 Classic and Standard calendars are catalysts for both personal and denominational reflection. Bishop Bruce Ough, president of the Connectional Table, asks United Methodists to seek people "from the outskirts of hope" and invite them to the "center of God's beloved community." United Methodist Program Calendars serve not only as organizational and communication tools, but as reminders of our commitment to do God's work. Please fill your calendar pages with ministries that change the world, events that answer the needs of your community, names of people willing to be "on call" for God's good, and with notes reminding you of why you do what you do as a United Methodist.

What is the difference between good worship and good entertainment? Too often, people disparage some aspect of worship by calling it "just entertainment" or "just a performance." Others say that they do not need to go to church because they have profound spiritual or even religious experiences at concerts, plays, movies, or dances. How is worship different from these performing arts? How is art different from entertainment? This book looks at the history of the performing arts both in worship and as worship, with particular attention to the attitudes that shape our ideas about both worship and entertainment. Working definitions of words like "art," "excellence," "liturgy," and "play" help to illuminate what different people mean when they use them in conversations about Christian worship. Putting theological, scriptural, and practical writings on worship and the performing arts in conversation with interviews with dancers, musicians, actors, preachers, and liturgical scholars, this volume is intended to help pastors, performers, and everyone who plans, leads, or cares about worship talk with one another in mutually respectful and helpful ways.

With interactive online access, *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2015* offers fresh worship planning resources for pastors and worship leaders. Using a theme idea based on the lectionary readings, each week's offering of prayers and litanies follows a basic pattern of Christian worship: Invitation and Gathering, Proclamation and Response, Thanksgiving and Communion Sending Forth. Alternative ideas for Praise Sentences and Contemporary Gathering Words are offered for those who work in contemporary worship settings. Searchable online extras, along with the entire print text in PDF format for ease of navigation and use, are available with the purchase of the print resources. Now more than ever, *The Abingdon Worship Annual* is a must-have source-book offering countless opportunities for planning meaningful and insightful worship.

This is a book about faith and moral issues facing American troops and veterans. As someone who spent four years

wearing a U.S. army uniform, Edgar S. Welty has plenty of "soldier stories." But he does not start this book with those stories. Instead, Welty introduces his work with the telling of Simon's service when he carried the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. He argues that "service" is the same as Jesus's call to "go an 'extra' or 'second' mile." Americans are called by Jesus to walk a "second mile" for American troops and veterans. This act of service is necessary because many troops are in trouble, as is demonstrated by suicide rates. Each section of this book focuses on a new issue surrounding troops and veterans.

An all-in-one resource that helps both the music director and pastor plan the worship services for each Sunday and holy day of the year, the United Methodist Music and Worship Planner 2015-2016; is lectionary based and places at one's fingertips a calendar format that helps plan the entire choir year from September through August, reproducible worship planning forms, suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more. Also included is the complete lectionary text of the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings, using Common English Bible translation. The standard resource for teachers of the Uniform Series.

Hymnody is widely recognised as a central tenet of Methodism's theological, doctrinal, spiritual, and liturgical identity. Theologically and doctrinally, the content of the hymns has traditionally been a primary vehicle for expressing Methodism's emphasis on salvation for all, social holiness, and personal commitment, while particular hymns and the communal act of participating in hymn singing have been key elements in the spiritual lives of Methodists. An important contribution to the history of Methodism, British Methodist Hymnody argues that the significance of hymnody in British Methodism is best understood as a combination of its official status, spiritual expression, popular appeal, and practical application. Seeking to consider what, when, how, and why Methodists sing, British Methodist Hymnody examines the history, perception, and practice of hymnody from Methodism's small-scale eighteenth-century origins to its place as a worldwide denomination today.

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Mistakes, disappointments, suffering, and heartbreak can prevent us from growing physically, emotionally, even spiritually, or they can propel us to a new way of life. Building on the contributions of therapists, holistic healers, and spiritual mentors such as Richard Rohr, James Hollis, Elizabeth Lesser, Bill Plotkin, Ken Wilber, and Thich Nhat Hanh, Dark Splendor takes us on a journey into "depth" spirituality, exploring the two halves of life, noting how the perspectives and experiences of the first half of life either leave us frozen emotionally and spiritually, or serve as stepping stones to the vibrant maturity called "the second half of life." This "further journey" is not chronological, nor does one magically stumble upon it at midlife or in times of crisis, though these often serve as catalysts. The second journey is largely unknown today, even by people we consider deeply religious, since most individuals and institutions remain stymied in the preoccupations of the first half of life, establishing identity, creating boundary markers, and seeking security. The first-half-of-life task, while essential, is not the full journey. Furthermore, one cannot walk the second journey with first-journey tools. One needs a new toolkit. Dark Splendor provides the transformational tools that help transport us to the mystery and beauty of the second half of life. The world is more magical, less predictable, more autonomous, less controllable, more varied, less simple, more infinite, less knowable, more wonderfully troubling than we could have imagined being able to tolerate when we were young. --James Hollis God comes to you disguised as your life. --Paula D'Arcy

Various Christian traditions mark their calendars to reflect the biblical and ecclesial narrative and enhance public worship. Such efforts safeguard against secularization's encroachment in the church's life. Setting the Spiritual Clock serves as a guide and traveling companion for the liturgical year, which circles the glorious Son as he breaks through the secular eclipse.

The Gift of New Hope, originally published in 2015, invites readers to explore their yearning for God's presence through a study of the lectionary Bible readings for Advent and Christmas. Each week's Scriptures call us to praise God as we actively await the coming of Christ and prepare our hearts and lives for his arrival. Through the readings, we hear the invitation to claim and celebrate the new hope we have in Jesus Christ. The season of Advent offers opportunities to prepare for God's coming in human form in the infant Jesus and for the fulfillment of God's kingdom with the second coming of Christ. Hope is the focus of Advent worship, study, and prayer. We will discover the light that began in the manger, which continues as we look forward with hope to Christ's return. The Gift of New Hope is based on the Revised Common Lectionary scriptures for church year C, the third of a three-year cycle of Bible readings. The study includes commentary and reflection on readings from the Old Testament, the Gospels, and the Epistles. It offers the opportunity to explore these Bible readings in a five-session study. It will help participants understand, appreciate, and engage in meaningful and joyous celebrations of Advent and Christmas and to live each day in God's hope through Jesus Christ.

"I use both the Wall version (for quick reference and guidance on lectionary readings, planning checklist and special dates) AND the desk version (for work with Mission Outreach and Marketing committees). I use the calendar to begin my daily devotions, reading each Scripture twice throughout the week plus there is the added benefit of the planning resources. Also, as a support to ministry and devotional tool and as a teaching tool in Confirmation."- The Rev. Krysta Deede, Associate Pastor, Cargill United Methodist Church, 2000 Wesley Ave, Janesville, Wisconsin This wall calendar is 18x24. The writing is on the wall for all to see! Post this calendar on bulletin boards throughout your church, in offices, meeting rooms, Sunday school classrooms and more. Keep everybody in the loop about liturgical colors, next year's events and special days. The 2015 theme for the Official United Methodist Program Calendar is transformation. The compelling stories featured in the insert in the 2015 Classic and Standard calendars are catalysts for both personal and denominational reflection. Bishop Bruce Ough, president of the Connectional Table,

asks United Methodists to seek people "from the outskirts of hope" and invite them to the "center of God's beloved community." United Methodist Program Calendars serve not only as organizational and communication tools, but as reminders of our commitment to do God's work. Please fill your calendar pages with ministries that change the world, events that answer the needs of your community, names of people willing to be "on call" for God's good, and with notes reminding you of why you do what you do as a United Methodist.

A bold, historical, robust approach to reading Scripture and encountering Jesus anew No one expects to be surprised. Yet biblical interpretation can do exactly that. Christians expect to see Jesus as they read the Bible, but when and how Jesus actually speaks through Scripture can still surprise us! Drawing on the early church's theological giants—Origen, Augustine, Gregory the Great, and more from the historical cloud of witnesses—author Jason Byassee models how we can recover ancient Christians' multiple ways of reading the Bible to our benefit. As Byassee says, God himself is Jewish, Catholic, and Pentecostal—so much larger than our own little corner on the truth—and this book offers readers a refreshingly enhanced vision of the Bible and of Jesus himself.

This acclaimed work surveys the varied course of religious life in modern America. Beginning with the close of the Victorian Age, it moves through the shifting power of Protestantism and American Catholicism and into the intense period of immigration and pluralism that has characterized our nation's religious experience.

The Upper Room Disciplines 2015 is a devotional guide for Christians who want to delve deeper into scripture and apply it to their daily lives. Fifty-three writers from diverse Christian backgrounds share messages of hope, challenge, and joy. Each daily reading includes a focal scripture passage from the Revised Common Lectionary, a meditation related to the scripture, and a prayer or suggestion for reflection. Writers for 2015 include Trevor Hudson, Marjorie Hewitt Suchoki, Michael W. Waters, Eileen Campbell-Reed, Paul Lynd Escamilla, J. Dana Trent, James Howell, Kristen Vincent, Thomas Thangaraj, and more.

"A timely and poetic journey through sacred texts that causes the reader to pause and consider matters worthy of our action, repentance and transformation. Another Scroll is in defiance to oppression and encouraging to the work of liberation."—The Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, Associate Professor of Constructive Theology, Meadville Lombard Theological School. To the Revised Common Lectionary, Amy G. S. A. Brooks adds another scroll of holy texts: gritty, fiercely loving, justice-minded poems that defy theological oppression. Another Scroll: Defiant Readings for Lectionary Year C is a sacred invitation to open the scripture and allow it to unfurl with the courageous affirmation of every reader. As Brooks notes, "Beloved, in case no one has told you: you are whole, you are holy, you are wholly loved."

An all-in-one resource that helps both the music director and pastor plan the worship services for each Sunday and holy day of the year, the United Methodist Music and Worship Planner 2014-2015; is lectionary based and places at one's fingertips a calendar format that helps plan the entire choir year from September through August, reproducible worship planning forms, suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more. Also included is the complete lectionary text of the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings, using Common English Bible translation.

"Popular author F. Belton Joyner has revised his best-selling resource for introducing The United Methodist Church. In a humorous yet respectful style, Joyner takes the reader through illuminating questions and answers on United Methodist terms and beliefs on God, Jesus, the Bible, the church, salvation, and more. This revised edition includes new sections on United Methodism as a global church, United Methodist ministries beyond the congregation, and United Methodist theology in conversation with other Christian traditions. It has also been updated to reflect recent changes to The Book of Discipline and the orders of ministry. The book's question-and-answer format easily lends itself to use in Sunday school classes and also works for individual study. From new recruits to lifelong United Methodists, readers will gain a lively sense of what is special and important about their denominational home."--Back cover.

An Introduction to Ministry is a comprehensive and ecumenical introduction to the craft of ministry for ministers, pastors, and priests that make up the mainline denominations in the United States. Ecumenically-focused, It offers a grounded account of ministry, covering areas such as vocation, congregational leadership, and cultivation of skills for an effective ministry. Covers the key components of the M.Div. curriculum, offering a map and guide to the central skills and issues in training Explores the areas of vocation, skills for ministry, and issues around congregational leadership Each topic ends with an annotated bibliography providing an indispensable gateway to further study Helps students understand both the distinctive approach of their denomination and the relationship of that approach to other mainline denominations Advocates and defends a generous understanding of the Christian tradition in its openness and commitment to broad conversation

An all-in-one resource that helps both the music director and pastor plan the worship services for each Sunday and holy day of the year, the 2015-2016 edition of Prepare! is lectionary-based and places at one's fingertips a calendar format that helps plan the entire choir year from September through August, with reproducible worship planning forms, suggestions for prayers, solos, anthems, visuals, and much more. Also included is the complete lectionary text of the Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings.

A Guide to the Practice of Church Music by Marion J. Hatchett was published by Church Hymnal Corporation in 1989 and was an invaluable resource for church musicians, clergy, and educational programs in the church, such as the Leadership Program for Musicians (LPM). Since that time our liturgical language expanded and changed the scope of our worship offerings. The hymnody of other cultures, as well as hymn writers from the past thirty years, has influenced congregational song. The use of the Revised Common Lectionary has necessitated the need for new liturgical and music planning texts. All Things Necessary: A Practical Guide for Episcopal Church Musicians by Marti Rideout is a resource for musicians serving in Episcopal Churches who come from other denominations; clergy who desire to have a deeper appreciation for church music and who seek a resource that will help them in their ministries; those who are new to church work, and those who have served the church but desire to expand their knowledge. This book provides: - Comprehensive information about the Episcopal Church, The Book of Common Prayer (1979), liturgical resources published since then and the opportunities for music within the various rites, The Hymnal 1982 and all hymnal supplements and resources written since that publication. - A philosophy of music in the Episcopal Church. - A complete compilation of service music and canticles for the Daily Offices, Holy Eucharist and Sacraments from Church Publishing's six main hymnal sources. - Suggestions for the singing of Psalms and planning liturgies throughout the liturgical year. - Extensive lists of sources for most aspects of church music and liturgy, terms and definitions from an Episcopal perspective, and a practical bibliography.

A weekly worship planning book for pastors and musicians.

This book is a study of how congregational song developed and has been used in the worship of Western churches in

general and specifically churches in the United States. Beginning with the worship of ancient peoples, the Hebrews, and early Christians and continuing to the present, the author examines historically how song has been and is used as an intentional sacred ritual action, like prayer or Scripture reading. Written primarily as an introductory text for college and seminary students, the overall goal is to make a historical journey with the people, events, and ideas from which have evolved the various types of song we have in American worship today. To help readers think more deeply about the material, study questions are given at the end of each chapter.

Pastors and other preachers have long turned to The Abingdon Preaching Annual for help with one of the central tasks of their ministry: sermon preparation. The 2013 edition of the Annual continues and, in response to our faithful readers, improves this fine tradition. Sermon helps include: lectionary-based sermons for each Sunday and special liturgical event of the year; lectionary commentary; and 15 topical sermon series on diverse themes like missions, modern families, life in the Holy Spirit, stewardship, and more. Worship planning aids include a four-year liturgical event calendar Guide to liturgical colors; 2013 lectionary readings in one, easy-to-read table; and related worship aids following each lectionary sermon, and each sermon series. The Abingdon Preaching Annual, always a trusted resource, is the most comprehensive and useful aid for sermon preparation you will find.

"I use the Classic, spiral bound 8.5 x 11 version. I like it for having a fuller calendar at my disposal and to know all the UM events, special Sundays, and other important seasonal and liturgical information. The UM Calendar is much more useful than a generic calendar for all the information, resources and UM specific events that are listed. My favorite feature is the full calendar for the following year, so that for planning purposes I know when Lent begins, Easter is, and what day Christmas falls. I get extra copies and distribute them to my planning team, worship team and other staff." - The Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones, senior pastor, La Plata UMC in La Plata, (Md.) This is the horizontal and spiral, 11" x 8.5" calendar. There's a reason planning and worship teams depend on the CLASSIC calendar. IT HAS EVERYTHING!

Agency contacts/web sites, information services, interdenominational services, Revised Common Lectionary readings, liturgical colors, next year's events, planning/resource checklists, special days, a three-year calendar, the United Methodist giving program and pages for notes. The 2015 theme for the Official United Methodist Program Calendar is transformation. The compelling stories featured in the insert in the 2015 Classic and Standard calendars are catalysts for both personal and denominational reflection. Bishop Bruce Ough, president of the Connectional Table, asks United Methodists to seek people "from the outskirts of hope" and invite them to the "center of God's beloved community." United Methodist Program Calendars serve not only as organizational and communication tools, but as reminders of our commitment to do God's work. Please fill your calendar pages with ministries that change the world, events that answer the needs of your community, names of people willing to be "on call" for God's good, and with notes reminding you of why you do what you do as a United Methodist.

This is the sixth and final volume in the Feasting on the Word Worship Companion series, which provides liturgical pieces used in preparing for worship. It offers a multitude of poetic prayers and responsive readings for all parts of worship for churches that use the Revised Common Lectionary. In addition, the weekly entries include questions for reflection and household prayers for morning and evening that are drawn from the lectionary, allowing churches to include them in their bulletin for parishioners to use throughout the week. During times of the year when two different tracks of Old Testament texts are offered by the Revised Common Lectionary, this resource offers an entire set of materials for both tracks. Also, a CD-ROM is included with each volume that enables planners to easily cut and paste relevant readings, prayers, and questions into worship bulletins. Liturgy writers include: Kimberly L. Clayton, Director of Contextual Education, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia; Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) David Gambrell, Associate for Worship in the Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Louisville, Kentucky; Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Daniel M. Geslin, Pastor, Union Congregational Church of Hancock, Hancock, Maine; United Church of Christ Kimberly Bracken Long, Associate Professor of Worship, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia; Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) L. Edward Phillips, Associate Professor of Worship and Liturgical Theology, Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, Georgia; United Methodist Church Melinda Quivik, Liturgical Scholar, Houghton, Michigan; Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Carol L. Wade, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, Kentucky; Episcopal Church

There is a spiritual hunger in the world today. Many people are seeking answers to life's hard questions. Many people come to church seeking inspiration, help for personal problems, or faith's perspective on life. They come seeking things you cannot find in a search engine. The church has exactly what they need, but too often there is a gap between our message and our ability to send it. Each week, as people pause to learn about faith and get a word of hope, a lot rides on the sermon. Susan Cartmell took a journey across the country to visit churches with great preaching and lively worship. What she discovered was that Evangelical Christians and Unitarian Universalists were using themed preaching effectively to attract new members. Working in her church over the last five years, she has designed a new system for preaching with themes in mainline Protestant churches. She shares her method and her journey in a story that invites you to consider new ways to preach faithfully without using the lectionary.

Sacramental Life Vol 30.4 (Advent 2018) Founded in 1988, Sacramental Life is one of two journals published by the Order of Saint Luke (OSL Publications). Print distribution is to the members of the Order globally, as well as to a number of theology departments and seminary libraries in the United States.

Christianity Today's 2017 Book of the Year Award of Merit - Church/Pastoral Leadership What happens when a diverse church glorifies the global God? We live in a time of unprecedented intercultural exchange, where our communities welcome people from around the world. Music and media from every culture are easily accessible, and our worship is infused with a rich variety of musical and liturgical influences. But leading worship in multicultural contexts can be a crosscultural experience for everybody. How do we help our congregations navigate the journey? Innovative worship

leader Sandra Maria Van Opstal is known for crafting worship that embodies the global, multiethnic body of Christ. Likening diverse worship to a sumptuous banquet, she shows how worship leaders can set the table and welcome worshipers from every tribe and tongue. Van Opstal provides biblical foundations for multiethnic worship, with practical tools and resources for planning services that reflect God's invitation for all peoples to praise him. When multiethnic worship is done well, the church models reconciliation and prophetic justice, heralding God's good news for the world. Enter into the praise of our king, and let the nations rejoice!

To read and visualize the transfiguration of Christ is to enter its mystery and encounter its hope. Like the Gospel writers and the disciples who climbed the mountain with Jesus, we struggle to tell the story and explain its meaning. Yet this astounding event reveals God's ultimate purpose in sending his Son--the complete restoration of humanity and all creation--our transfiguration in Christ. The light and glory of that moment reveal a destiny that is infinite and eternal, made possible by the power of grace. Transfiguration is the trajectory and goal of our spiritual journey. Across time and space, Christians have reflected on the mystery and hope epitomized in the transfiguration, yet their voices have been heard primarily within their own cultural and ecclesiastical contexts. This study gathers many of those voices from the panorama of Scripture and church history and finds in them the common theme of radical transformation in Christ. The point of this theological conversation is spiritual transfiguration and hope for each of us as we reach toward the future Christ has shown us in himself.

How did a thirteenth-century Italian friar become one of the best-loved saints in America? Around the nation today, St. Francis of Assisi is embraced as the patron saint of animals, beneficently presiding over hundreds of Blessing of the Animals services on October 4, St. Francis's Catholic feast day. Not only Catholics, however, but Protestants and other Christians, Hindus, Buddhists, Jews, and nonreligious Americans commonly name him as one of their favorite spiritual figures. Drawing on a dazzling array of art, music, drama, film, hymns, and prayers, Patricia Appelbaum explains what happened to make St. Francis so familiar and meaningful to so many Americans. Appelbaum traces popular depictions and interpretations of St. Francis from the time when non-Catholic Americans "discovered" him in the nineteenth century to the present. From poet to activist, 1960s hippie to twenty-first-century messenger to Islam, St. Francis has been envisioned in ways that might have surprised the saint himself. Exploring how each vision of St. Francis has been shaped by its own era, Appelbaum reveals how St. Francis has played a sometimes countercultural but always aspirational role in American culture. St. Francis's American story also displays the zest with which Americans borrow, lend, and share elements of their religious lives in everyday practice.

The Professional Reviewers Views on the 3-Day Journey: Blueink Review: "The aftermath of war is often measured in body counts or economic damage; however, one of war's most lasting impacts is the loss it imposed on children. Author Duk-Joong Won was just 12 years old when he was handed a small package and told to leave his mother behind, with assurance that they would be reunited in three days. He never saw her again. Three-day-Journey is a gripping memoir of grief, faith, family, and ultimately triumphant." KIRCUS REVIEW: "Arriving (at the USA) with \$50 and limited command of the English language, he initially worked menial jobs, but eventually obtained a Ph.D. in economics. After decades as a successful businessman, he visited totalitarian North Korea in 1990; there, he learned that his mother and favorite sister were long dead, but managed to see his surviving siblings and say a final goodbye. Overtaken by depression back in the U.S., he changed career attending a seminary and becoming a pastor. Despite occasional language errors, this book provides a readable personal record of life in bygone Korea. It also effectively tells the story of an immigrant struggling and succeeding in the United States." Rev. Walter Chun, Ph.D.: "Three-Day-Journey is a success story motivated by a heartfelt memory of his mother, as well as a fruitful achievement of hard work in the midst of distress. All the more, this is our story, of our parents motivating us." Rev. Bill Youngblood: "What a compelling and inspiring journey! To read how you escaped the war, survived in the long journey to safety in South Korea, made it to America, managed to get a first rate education, reconnected with Insook, start and run a company, and go back home to see your family in the North and South, and finished your career as an ordained United Methodist Pastor with wonderful effectiveness in each church that you served is truly an inspiration. . . ."

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